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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/613,189	07/03/2003	Gerald Pfaff	032301.343	2385
25461	7590	03/24/2006	EXAMINER	
SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP			NAFF, DAVID M	
1230 PEACHTREE STREET, N.E.				
SUITE 3100, PROMENADE II			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
ATLANTA, GA 30309-3592			1651	

DATE MAILED: 03/24/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/613,189	PFAFF ET AL	
	Examiner David M. Naff	Art Unit 1651	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 July 2003.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.                    2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
  1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 9/26/03 12/16/03.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

**DETAILED ACTION**

Claims examined on the merits are 1-15, which are all claims in the application.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

5 The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C.  
112:

10 The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with  
which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

15 Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph,  
as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and  
20 distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Requiring in claim 1 optionally emulsifying the active substance with the addition of an emulsifier without setting forth the substance in which the active substance is emulsified, and steps used for  
25 emulsifying makes the claim unclear as to the form of the active substance that results from emulsifying. In claims 8-13, there is not clear antecedent basis for "aqueous emulsion or solution". Claim 1 has not recite producing an aqueous emulsion or solution.

In the last line of claim 4, "other B vitamins" is unclear as to  
25 vitamins required.

Claims 10-13 are unclear as to the active substance required by reciting "an active substance" since the claims on which they depend require a specific active substance.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

5       A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

10      Claims 1, 2, 4, 6 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bendixen et al (EP 0 772 978 A1).

The claims require forming a solution or emulsion of an active substance, and applying the solution or emulsion to a bulk material, which can be feed.

15      Bendixen et al disclose preparing solutions containing vitamins, amino acids and enzymes and applying the solutions to feed (page 8, lines 18-20). The feed is a bulk material and the method of Bendixen et al is the same as presently claimed. The claims do not exclude adding separate solutions as may be added by Bendixen et al.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

25      (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

30      This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner

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presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of 5 each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 3, 8-10, and 12-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as 10 being unpatentable over Bendixen et al.

The claims require percentages of the active substance in the bulk material or in the solution or emulsion.

It would have been a matter of individual preference and obvious to select a preferred amount of the vitamins, enzymes and amino acids 15 to add to the solution and feed of Bendixen et al.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

Claims 5 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bendixen et al in view of Schweikert et al (5,350,773).

20 The claims require the active substance to be a carotinoid or xanthophyll.

Schweikert et al disclose preparing a liquid product containing a carotene for adding to animal food.

It would have been obvious to include carotene in a solution of 25 Bendixen et al to obtain the function of the carotene in animal feed

as suggested by Schweikert et al. The amount of active substance in claim 11 would have been a matter of individual preference and obvious to the skilled artisan.

**Conclusion**

5 Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David M. Naff whose telephone number is 571-272-0920. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, 10 the examiner's supervisor, Mike Wityshyn can be reached on 571-272-0926. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) 15 system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



David M. Naff  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1651